

Mothers' Day EXTRA

# Grace Notes

Grace Lutheran Church, 2006 60<sup>th</sup> Street, Kenosha, Wisconsin



May 9, 2021

## Gathering Liturgy for Sixth Sunday of Easter

### GREETING

**P** Alleluia! Christ the Lord is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

### BLESSING OF MOTHERS

**P** Gracious God, in love you have given us the gift of mothers. Grant to each of them your power and grace. Strengthen them in their mothering with tenderness and understanding, with compassion and joy. Endow them with wisdom and knowledge so that they might teach their children how to live and how to love; how to seek and pursue that which is right and true; how to turn away from all that is hurtful and wrong. Deepen their own faith so that they might instill in their children a love for you that will sustain and keep them their whole life long. We ask this in Jesus' name.

**C** **Amen.**

### THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**C** **Amen**

**P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed

with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: "Borning Cry" (ELW #732) vv. 1 & 4

1 "I was there to hear your  
borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.

*I rejoiced the day you were  
baptized  
to see your life unfold.*

*I was there when you were but a  
child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered  
off  
to find where demons dwell.*

4 "I was there to hear your  
borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were  
baptized  
to see your life unfold."

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### GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 139)  
*This is the feast of victory for our  
God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who  
was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be  
people of God.*

*This is the feast of victory for our  
God.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

*Power, riches, wisdom and strength,  
and honor, blessing, and glory  
are his.*

*This is the feast of victory for our  
God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
Sing with all the people of God,  
and join in the hymn of all  
creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and  
might*

*be to God and the Lamb forever.  
Amen.*

*This is the feast of victory for our  
God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.  
For the Lamb who was slain has  
begun his reign.  
Alleluia.*

*This is the feast of victory for our  
God.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☐ Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

## Readings for Sixth Sunday of Easter

### Acts 10:44–48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God.

Then Peter said, “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”

So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

### Psalms 98

<sup>1</sup> Sing a new song to the LORD,  
who has done marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm  
have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup> O LORD, you have made  
known your victory,  
you have revealed your  
righteousness in the  
sight of the nations.

<sup>3</sup> You remember your steadfast  
love and faithfulness to the  
house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have  
seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup> Shout with joy to the LORD,  
all you lands;

**lift up your voice, rejoice,  
and sing.**

<sup>5</sup> Sing to the LORD with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of  
song.



<sup>6</sup> With trumpets and the  
sound of the horn  
shout with joy before the  
king, the LORD.

<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and all that fills  
it,  
the world and those who dwell  
therein.

<sup>8</sup> Let the rivers clap their  
hands,  
and let the hills ring out  
with joy before the  
LORD, who comes to  
judge the earth.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD will judge the world  
with righteousness  
and the peoples with equity.

### 1 John 5:1–6

Everyone who believes that  
Jesus is the Christ has been born

of God, and everyone who loves  
the parent loves the child. By this  
we know that we love the  
children of God, when we love  
God and obey his  
commandments.

For the love of God is this,  
that we obey his commandments.  
And his commandments are not  
burdensome, for whatever is  
born of God conquers the world.  
And this is the victory that  
conquers the world, our faith.

Who is it that conquers the  
world but the one who believes  
that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by  
water and blood, Jesus Christ,  
not with the water only but with  
the water and the blood. And the  
Spirit is the one that testifies, for  
the Spirit is the truth.

### GOSPEL: John 15:9–17

Jesus said, “As the Father  
has loved me, so I have loved  
you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you  
keep my commandments, you  
will abide in my love, just as I  
have kept my Father’s  
commandments and abide in his  
love. I have said these things to  
you so that my joy may be in you,  
and that your joy may be  
complete.

“This is my commandment,  
that you love one another as I  
have loved you. No one has

greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.

"You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing;

but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father.

"You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will

last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

## *Pastor Barker's Sermon on Psalm 98*

I want you to think about a time you were anticipating something really exciting. We might have to dig deep in our memory to think of something. Maybe waiting for a Christmas present or waiting to graduate from high school or waiting after getting engaged, waiting for your wedding day, or waiting for the birth of a child, or really anything else you waited for.

Our passage this morning invites us into excited anticipation that God is up to something wonderful.

The opening verse reads, "O sing to the LORD a new song".

Now, we might think to ourselves this about chronology or style. For instance, let's sing a song written in the last decade, not a Luther hymn from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Or, I get it, we need to add drums and a guitar to our worship team.

But both of these ideas of singing a new song are incorrect. The call to sing a new song is a call to write a new song for this very occasion. God has done something new so we need to write a new song naming this new wonderful thing.

The idea we are to sing a new song presupposes that God continues to be up to new things in our lives. God might show up in a new way at any point that requires the writing of a new song.

Now, I think this contrasts at points with how we live our faith journey at points. Some of us might believe that it was mainly in the Biblical times that God was actively doing big



things. Or we might look at church history and say, well God was certainly active in the lives of the Reformers in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and was certainly active in the lives of the Abolitionists during the Second Great Awakening and was certainly active in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life and Civil Rights Movement of the '50's and '60's. But, then in the same breath we might say, but God doesn't seem too active right now.

Or we might see our own lives this way. God was really active in my life during my battle with an illness or in my grief after the loss of a loved one or when I was under a certain pastor but now God seems less active.

That we are called to sing a new song though calls us not to imprison God or God's work in the past.

It invites us to constantly wonder what God will be up to tomorrow or even this very afternoon.

Hold onto that for a second.

Think back to those moments where we have most felt God. Whether it be historical moments outside of our life or moments in our life from long ago.

God can show up like those moments at anytime.

God might show up like God did the book of Acts tomorrow or like God was active during the

Reformation or Civil Rights Movement.

I find this incredibly exciting and keeps getting me out of bed to see what God is going to be up to next.

Now, I know that I am preaching to the choir on this, but I have a deep sense that this knowing that God might do something new here at Grace at anypoint is what keeps our faith community strong.

We are constantly willing to say God is up to something new and let us continue to be a congregation with this spirit.

Amen.

# Creed, Prayers, and Communion Liturgy

HYMN OF THE DAY: “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” (ELW #708) vv. 1 & 4

Refrain: *Jesu, Jesu,  
fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve  
the neighbors we have from you.*

1 *Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
master who acts as a slave to them. Refrain.*

4 *Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
silently washing their feet:*

*this is the way we will live with you. Refrain.*

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love” by Tom Colvin. Text © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicence.net permit #A-733643

## CREED

**P** Confident in Christ’s resurrection, let us proclaim our faith:

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO PRAYERS “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” (ELW #752)

*Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,*

*send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” by Ken Medema copyright © 1973 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under OneLicence.net permit #A-733643

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**P** Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Loving God, you call us to be your fruit-bearing church. Strengthen the bonds among all Christian churches. Today we pray for the Moravian Church, giving thanks for the life and witness of

Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church and hymnwriter. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**P** Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**P** Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations’ leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

**P** Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering, especially:

- Mary Andrews (Welcome Center volunteer from St. Anthony’s)
- Dawn Bench (Welcome Center volunteer)
- Doug Becker (Marlene Binninger’s son)
- Jackie Brichacek (Nancy’s sister-in-law)
- Jean Boothe (Grace soup kitchen supervisor)
- Hank Buehrens
- Andrew Calvert
- Pat Calvert
- Barb Caputo
- Holly Cummings
- Eric Dangerfield (Carolyn Reynold’s boyfriend)
- Connie, mother of Welcome Center volunteer Lynda Eirich
- Gregory Foster
- Steve Gapko
- Shirleen Gulick
- Aggie Hartnell (Bert Felland’s mother)
- Sydney Houston
- Jacqueline & David Kramer
- David Kristopeit (Nancy’s brother-in-law)
- Dorothy Keuffer
- Dean O’Hanlon
- Carolyn Reynold’s children Eddie, Santino, and Lytoshia
- Cynthia Schwartz (Norma’s daughter)
- Marcia Swanson
- Joyce Swift
- Linda Wadham
- Florence and Jacqueline Walker (Carolyn’s sisters)
- Dottie Watts

• Kristi Weiss (Rollie's daughter);  
Provide for those needing homes or medical care  
and point us towards life-changing responses to  
these needs in our own communities. Be with the  
dying (*especially...*). Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child,  
you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering  
people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their  
mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve  
because they cannot be mothers, and those who  
have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in  
your presence forever. We remember with  
thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout  
their lives (*especially...*). Keep us united with them  
in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

**P** In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our  
prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending  
goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MEAL

OFFERING. "We Give Thee but Thine Own" (ELW  
#686)

*1 We give thee but thine own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone,  
a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and  
earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As  
you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad  
and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to  
respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our  
Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING. SONG: "Love Divine, All  
Loves Excelling" (ELW #631) vv. 1 & 4

*1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven, to earth come down!*

*Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.*

4 *Finish, then, thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee!  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise!*

DIALOGUE & PREFACE

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we  
should at all times and in all places give thanks and  
praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the  
glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the  
true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away  
our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in  
rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and  
all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and  
sea and all their creatures, and with angels and  
archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your  
name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 144)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

**P** Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for  
creating the heavens and the earth. We bless you for  
bringing Noah and his family through the waters of  
the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the  
bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our  
Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living  
among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with  
a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life, death, and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**C Amen**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven:**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P** The risen Christ invites us to this table. Come, eat and be satisfied.

**COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)**

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.*

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.*

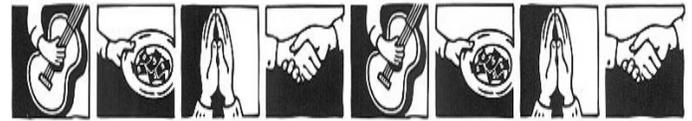
**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your

glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C Amen.**



**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

**P** God, the Source of glory, God, the Word of life, God, the Spirit of truth + bless you all, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**SENDING SONG "Jesus Loves Me" (ELW #595) vv. 1 & 3**

1 *Jesus loves me! this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
they are weak, but he is strong.*

Refrain: *Yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
yes, Jesus loves me,  
the Bible tells me so.*

4 *Jesus loves me! He will stay  
close beside me all the way;  
when at last I come to die,  
he will take me home on high. Refrain.*

**DISMISSAL**

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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**Grace Receipts: May 2, 2021**

General offering .....	\$ 1,066.00
Benevolence .....	\$ 5.00
Altar flowers.....	\$ 80.00
Non-member, for Welcome Center .....	\$ 100.00
Non-members, non-designated.....	\$ 50.00
Amistad Cristiana building use .....	\$ 800.00
Parking lot use .....	\$ 40.00
<u>Minus banking fees.....</u>	<u>\$ (4.70)</u>
Total .....	\$ 2,136.30
Grace weekly budget in 2021:	\$ 3,224.20

# Congregational Meeting Slated Next Sunday

Grace Lutheran Church Council has called for a congregational meeting at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday, May 16 to vote on two items. The first motion is to allow Grace Welcome Center to put a walk-in freezer next to the walk in refrigerator as well as present a beautification plan for how this will look nice (including moving the light fixture).

The second motion is to approve our synod's model family leave policy, sabbatical policy, and hear council and pastor's recommendation about how these two policies can fit together in his life over the next several years.

To join the Zoom Meeting on line, click at <https://bit.ly/38Gkngn> . the passcode is: 7WfEfC .

We will post a link on our Facebook page and with the newsletter posts on our website.

You can also phone in at 646-876-9923. You will need to then enter the meeting ID and passcode. The meeting ID is 685 749 8173, and the passcode by phone is 834854.

## Walk-In Freezer Explanation

Grace Welcome Center continues to serve between 120-190 families each Tuesday. This is a critical ministry for our community and manifests neighborly love very clearly. As our church and our country re-opens this summer and fall Grace Welcome Center has a plan for how they can keep serving this many families while also emptying the dining room so it can once again be used for church and Grace Welcome Center meals.

The plan is to store all the pallets of food in the original pantry room; it will look like the dining room now, but be packed even tighter. To do this all the freezers need to leave that room, so the request is to put a 10x10ft freezer right next to the walk in refrigerator. This will return the Rainbow Room to a rectangle. Grace Welcome Center is also

going to speak to a beautification plan to make sure this is as aesthetically pleasing as possible.

## Family Leave and Sabbatical Leave Policy Explanation

Currently Grace Lutheran Church does not have a Family Leave or Sabbatical Policy. Pastor's family is hoping to grow by one in the years to come. If Grace adopts our synod's sabbatical policy, pastor would be eligible for a sabbatical starting July 2, 2022.

With the possibility that Family Leave would be needed near when Pastor would be eligible for a sabbatical it is the suggestion of Grace Council and Pastor that Grace grant pastor two months of family leave followed by one month of sabbatical upon the birth of a child. This provides the best of both policies—both the opportunity to care and adjust to a new child and parenthood and also the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual renewal that comes from sabbatical time.

Please see the April 25 edition of *Grace Notes* for a fuller explanation of the proposed Family Leave and Sabbatical Policies. Copies are available at the church office and on line at [gracekenosha.com](http://gracekenosha.com).



Cutting the ribbon for the Welcome Center's walk-in cooler are Pastor Barker, Alderman David Bogdala, State Senator Bob Wirch, Tim Somers, Denise Russell, Outreach for Hope Director Rev. Chris Manke, and Justin Blake

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<https://www.GraceKenosha.com>

Worship services in-person and livestreaming at [www.facebook.com/GraceElcaKenosha/](https://www.facebook.com/GraceElcaKenosha/) 9:30 a.m. Sunday

Pastor Jonathan Barker: [jonathan.w.barker17@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.w.barker17@gmail.com) 626-864-6404

Church office: [graceoffice@wi.rr.com](mailto:graceoffice@wi.rr.com) 262-654-9143

Office hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday

## *Welcome Center Inaugurates Walk-in Cooler*

The Grace Welcome Center celebrated its fourth anniversary with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a large walk-in cooler in the Rainbow Room.

Speakers included Food Pantry Director Denise Russell, Outreach for Hope Director Rev. Chris Manke and Aldermen Bill Seil and David Bogdala.

State Senator Bob Wirch praised the people of Grace Lutheran Church for their commitment to action in service to the Uptown Kenosha community.

Pastor Jonathan Barker acknowledged the major gift from Tim Somers that made the cooler possible without needing to launch a capital fundraising campaign.

After Pastor Barker noted that Uptown Kenosha had become a “food desert” in recent years, Alderman Jan Michalski reported that a major grocery chain plans to open a store on 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue. You may know the location as having been the Salvation Army building or the old A&P store.

Pastor Barker, Joe Falbito, Justin Blake and Welcome Center Director Leif Peterson



displayed a plaque that will be presented to Kerry Kola, whose work on the cooler has been instrumental in turning the idea into physical reality.